(b) In Patti Maniyarshun Tehsil, 50 persons have applied for new telephone connections during the last two years. Out of which 20 telephone connections have already been provided. 30 revenue villages out of 44 have been provided with telephone facility in Patti Maniyarshun Tehsil.

(c) The waiting list in the following villages is as below:—

Allasu	1
Kunkuti	2
Quwata	Nil

The pending waiting listed applicants in the above mentioned and nearby villages are likely to be provided with telephone connections by 30th June 2003 subject to availability of resources.

Sugar production

2987. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sugar production from October to December (the first three months of the season) has declined as compared to production in the corresponding period last year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to increase the production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD): (a) and (b) The sugar production during the period October-December, 2002 was 50.44 lakh tonnes (provisional) as compared to 50.72 lakh tonnes during the corresponding period of the previous season. Thus, the production of sugar during the current season in the aforesaid period was more or less same as in the last season.

(c) Question does not arise.